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Industrial Composition--Trends and Outlook: Lincoln County, 1981

Maine Department of Manpower Affairs

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

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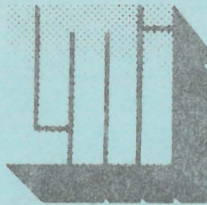
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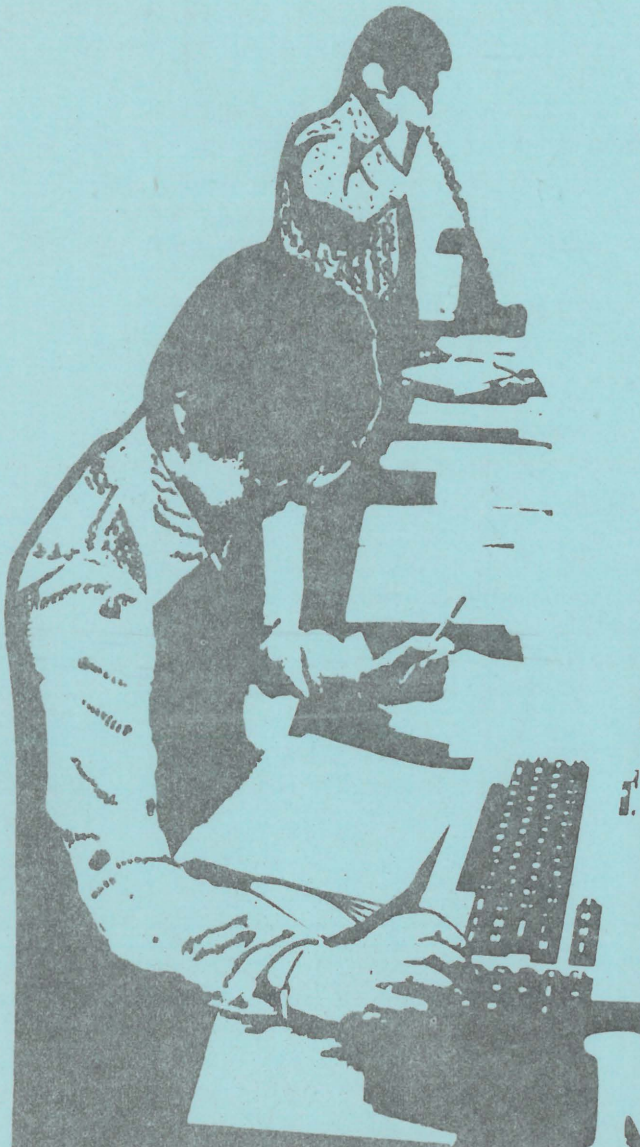
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INDUSTRIAL COMPOSITION--
TRENDS AND OUTLOOK

LINCOLN COUNTY

Labor Market Information

JUL 29 1981

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

MANPOWER RESEARCH DIVISION 20 UNION ST. AUGUSTA, ME 04330

A BUREAU OF THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AFFAIRS

PREFACE

Given that employment and training programs attempt to intrude or penetrate existing labor markets, an understanding of the industrial structure within such markets is imperative in order to develop effective strategic and operational employment plans. Accordingly, this technical services monograph was designed to provide an analysis of the industrial structure and the dynamics of industrial change in Lincoln County to assist employment and training program administrators and planners in assessing local job opportunities. Simply, efforts were directed within the monograph to identify those selected industries within Somerset that have healthier trends, larger employment, and/or more attractive stability.

The accompanying appendix to the monograph identifies additional sources of labor market information that might be applicable for employment and training program planning.

Any questions or comments regarding the contents of this monograph should be directed to Steven Gruz, Manager for Labor Market Information--Lewiston District, Maine Department of Manpower Affairs, Bureau of Employment Security, 522 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240, or by telephone at 207-783-9171.

Ray A. Fongemie, Director
Manpower Research Division

April 1981

A Technical Services Monograph of the Labor Market Information

Field Services Section, Paul E. Luce, Chief

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SECTION I

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The number of working persons in Lincoln County increased from 8,530 in 1979 to 8,780 in 1980. This increase in employment, along with a slight decrease in the number of unemployed persons from 780 to 760 between 1979 and 1980, resulted in the unemployment rate for Lincoln County dropping from 8.4 percent in 1979 to 8 percent in 1980. A major reason for the dip in unemployment was the availability of gasoline during 1980, after the gasoline shortage of 1979. However, the unemployment rate for Lincoln County for 1980 remains higher than the corresponding State and national rates of 7.7 percent and 7.1 percent, respectively.

SECTION II

INCOME AND EARNINGS

According to the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, per capita income in Lincoln County remained above the average for the State in 1978, with \$6,530 for the county compared with \$6,308 for the State. Per capita incomes of both the State and Lincoln County were well below the 1978 national average of \$7,854. During the period 1969 to 1978, the growth rate of per capita income in Lincoln County lagged behind both the State and nation. While per capita income in Lincoln County increased by 100 percent between 1969 and 1978, the per capita incomes of the State and nation expanded by 111 percent and 114 percent, respectively. Between 1977 and 1978, the growth rate of per capita income in Lincoln County was only 9.4 percent, compared with 10.1 percent and 11.5 percent for the State and nation, respectively.

Another published indicator of consumer well-being is Effective Buying Income (EBI). Generally, EBI serves as a measure of the disposable or spendable income of households. The median household EBI in Lincoln County remained below that of the State by \$2,117 in 1979 and by \$1,919 in 1978. A median household EBI of \$13,362 in 1979 ranked Lincoln County 15th out of Maine's 16 counties. A review of the distribution of EBI in 1979 indicates that 29 percent of households in Lincoln County had effective buying incomes of under \$8,000 and 14 percent had incomes of over \$25,000.

Reflecting its low EBI, in 1979 Lincoln County ranked 14th in the State in average weekly wages paid in covered employment, or employment in firms subject to the Maine Employment Security Law. The 1979 average weekly wage in Lincoln County was \$160.29, while that for the State was \$199.30.

While manufacturing in 1979 accounted for 29.3 percent of covered employment statewide, in Lincoln County manufacturing accounted for only 15.1 percent of covered employment. Average weekly wages for 1979 in manufacturing totalled \$211.21 in Lincoln County compared with \$234.19 statewide. With the exception of two counties, Lincoln had the lowest

wages in manufacturing of any county in the State. Major manufacturing industries in Lincoln County are electric and electronic equipment, transportation equipment, food and kindred products, and lumber and wood products.

SECTION III

POPULATION TRENDS

According to the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, the population of Lincoln County increased from 20,537 to 25,600 between 1970 and 1980. A population growth of 24.7 percent from 1970 to 1980 gave Lincoln County the second highest growth rate of all Maine counties over the period. The population of the State increased by 13.1 percent during the same period, while the population of the nation increased by 11.3 percent.

SECTION IV

LONG-TERM INDUSTRIAL TRENDS

Private covered employment in Lincoln County increased by 43.4 percent, or from 4,220 to 6,050 between the second quarters of 1975 and 1980. Employment in manufacturing increased from 700 to 750, or by only 7.1 percent over the 1975-1980 period. Largest manufacturing job gains were recorded in food and kindred products (+30), fabricated metal products (+20), and printing and publishing (+10). The most significant manufacturing employment losses occurred in electric and electronic equipment (-50) and in transportation equipment (-20).

The nonmanufacturing sector evidenced employment increasing from 3,510 in 1975 to 5,300 in 1980, or an increase of 51 percent. Major job gains were recorded by hotels and other lodging places (+180), food stores (+130), eating and drinking places (+100), and health services (+90). Losses were recorded in contract construction (-30), automobile dealers and service stations (-20), and wholesale trade (-70).

SECTION V

SHORT-TERM INDUSTRIAL TRENDS

According to Table 2, private covered employment in Lincoln County increased by only 2.9 percent, or from 5,880 to 6,050, between the second quarters of 1979 and 1980. Employment in the manufacturing sector decreased from 830 to 750, or by 9.6 percent over the 1979-1980 period. The only manufacturing industry to show any noticeable gain over the year was food and kindred products (+20). The most noticeable losses were recorded in electric and electronic equipment (-50), lumber and wood products (-40), and transportation equipment (-10).

Nonmanufacturing employment in Lincoln County increased from 5,050 to 5,300 between the second quarters of 1979 and 1980, or by 4.9 percent. This was largely attributable to continued growth in hotels and other lodging places (+70), food stores (+50), eating and drinking places (+50), and health services (+40). Losses were recorded in automobile dealers and service stations (-20) and wholesale trade (-10).

SECTION VI

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

According to a report published by the Maine State Development Office, Hunt Brothers Lumber opened a new facility in Wiscasset this past year employing approximately 90 persons. 1/ George Traquair, executive director of the Boothbay Harbor Chamber of Commerce, reports a new Pioneer Plastics plant began operations in Boothbay during 1980. The plant will employ an estimated 70 persons to manufacture plastic toys. 2/ The past year also saw Twin Rivers Engineering expand its East Boothbay facility. 3/

While the extreme cold weather of this past winter caused a temporary setback in the fishing industry of Lincoln County, the long-term forecast for that segment of the county's economy is promising. Dennis Rice, manager of the Boothbay Region Fish and Cold Storage Company, reports his firm is completing a \$1.3 million investment in a fish processing plant and freezing and storage facilities. Rice feels the new facilities will enable Boothbay Fish and Cold Storage to improve the quality of its product and thus compete more effectively with processing plants in Boston and New York. 4/ Also, Alfred Osmer, president of the First National Bank of Damariscotta, says that there are more large fishing boats in local harbors as a result of the 200-mile limit. 5/

In the tourist industry, many area residents feel that after a somewhat unsuccessful summer season in 1979, due to the gasoline shortage, 1980 was the best year ever. According to the Boothbay Harbor Chamber of Commerce, tourist volume was so high this past summer the area was hard pressed to provide enough lodging for visitors. Furthermore, inquiries for the 1981 season are presently very strong, which should result in employment gains in eating and drinking places and hotels and other lodging places. 6/

Employment opportunities in health services continue to be very promising. Work on Miles Memorial Hospital's 24,000 square-foot expansion is nearing completion. According to spokesperson Rita Grendel, the expansion consists of an out-patient facility, a 21-room acute-care facility, and a 40-bed intermediate-care facility. 7/

SECTION VII

LEADING INDUSTRIES WITH POTENTIAL FOR JOB OPPORTUNITY

Table 3 details an industrial-indicator matrix for twelve selected industries in Lincoln County. These industries have been compared in eight different categories, and their rank order (1 being the most desirable) is reflected in the far right column. It should be noted that eleven of the twelve selected industries are in the nonmanufacturing sector. The following industries appear to be the most promising industries in Lincoln County: (1) health services; (2) eating and drinking places; (3) hotels and other lodging places; (4) food stores; and (5) electric, gas, and sanitary services. The potential growth of health services and food stores can be attributed somewhat to the overall population growth of Lincoln County, while the growth of eating and drinking places and hotels and other lodging places is most directly related to seasonal tourist activity.

SECTION VIII

SUMMARY

Overall, it would appear that the outlook for Lincoln County is cautiously optimistic. The population of the county has grown substantially during the past decade. Furthermore, barring another gasoline shortage, the prognosis for the tourist industry appears promising. Although it is too early to tell what effect the slowdown in the national economy will have on Lincoln County, the county is not expected to evidence any major job losses during 1981.

TABLE 1

EMPLOYMENT AND CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY,
LINCOLN COUNTY, 1975-1980

SIC	Industry	Total Covered Employment		Change in Employment 1975-1980	
		1975	1980	Number	Percent
	Total.....	4,216	6,046	1,830	43.4
01-09	Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing.....	32	27	- 5	- 15.6
10-14	Mining.....	1	0	- 1	-100.0
15-17	Contract Construction.....	431	405	- 26	- 6.0
20-39	Manufacturing.....	702	747	45	6.4
20	Food and Kindred Products.....	50	82	32	64.0
22	Textile Mill Products.....	0	9	9	-
23	Apparel and Other Finished Products.....	0	3	3	-
24	Lumber and Wood Products.....	40	47	7	17.5
27	Printing and Publishing.....	31	42	11	35.5
28	Chemicals and Allied Products.....		3	3	-
32	Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products.....	17	22	5	29.4
34	Fabricated Metal Products.....	9	33	24	266.7
35	Machinery, except Electrical.....	19	27	8	42.1
36	Electric and Electronic Equipment.....	312	259	- 53	- 17.0
37	Transportation Equipment.....	185	162	- 23	- 12.4
38	Instruments and Related Products.....	0	8	8	-
39	Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries.....	39	50	11	28.2
40-49	Transportation and Other Public Utilities.....	253	581	328	129.6
50-51	Wholesale Trade.....	277	206	- 71	- 25.6
52-59	Retail Trade.....	1,429	1,750	321	22.5
60-67	Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.....	149	201	52	34.9
70-89	Services.....	942	2,129	1,187	126.0

Source: Data relates to payroll periods which include the 12th of the month and to employment covered under the Maine Employment Security Law in selected industries. Estimates are for June of each year. Effective January 1, 1978 "coverage" was expanded to include employers in state and local government and agriculture and private households employing domestic workers.

TABLE 2

EMPLOYMENT AND CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY,
LINCOLN COUNTY, 1979-1980

SIC	Industry	Total Covered Employment		Change in Employment 1979-1980	
		1979	1980	Number	Percent
	Total.....	5,881	6,046	165	2.8
01-09	Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing.....	47	27	- 20	- 42.6
15-17	Contract Construction.....	424	405	- 19	- 4.5
20-39	Manufacturing.....	831	747	84	- 10.1
20	Food and Kindred Products.....	60	82	22	36.7
22	Textile Mill Products.....	4	9	5	125.0
23	Apparel and Other Finished Products.....	3	3	0	0.0
24	Lumber and Wood Products.....	86	47	- 39	- 45.3
27	Printing and Publishing.....	52	42	- 10	- 19.2
28	Chemicals and Allied Products.....	7	3	- 4	- 57.1
32	Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products.....	22	22	0	0.0
34	Fabricated Metal Products.....	33	33	0	0.0
35	Machinery, except Electrical.....	21	27	6	28.6
36	Electric and Electronic Equipment.....	306	259	- 47	- 15.4
37	Transportation Equipment.....	166	162	- 4	- 2.4
38	Instruments and Related Products.....	7	8	1	14.3
39	Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries.....	64	50	- 14	- 21.9
40-49	Transportation and Other Public Utilities.....	365	581	216	59.2
50-51	Wholesale Trade.....	219	206	- 13	- 5.9
52-59	Retail Trade.....	1,807	1,750	- 57	- 3.2
60-67	Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.....	197	201	4	2.0
70-89	Services.....	1,991	2,129	138	6.9

Source: Data relates to payroll periods which include the 12th of the month and to employment covered under the Maine Employment Security Law in selected industries. Estimates are for June of each year. Effective January 1, 1978 "coverage" was expanded to include employers in state and local government and agriculture and private households employing domestic workers.

Table 3

INDUSTRIAL-INDICATOR MATRIX

Lincoln County

SIC	Industry	Labor Market Information																	
		Percent in- crease in Statewide Industrial Employment 1976-1982 1/		Covered Employment June 1980 2/		Percent of Total Covered Employment		Number of Establish- ments 2/		Percent Change in Employment 1979-1980		Actual Change in Employment 1979-1980		Job Bank Open Orders March 1981 3/		Average Weekly Wage 2/		Index	Rank Order
		Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank	Actual	Rank		
17	Construction, Special Trade Contractors	3.0	11	190	8	3.1	8	75	1	- 4.0	8	- 8	8	1	4	187	6	54	8
36	Electrical Machinery	50.4	2	259	5	4.3	5	2	11	- 15.4	12	- 47	11	1	4	288	2	52	7
49	Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	2.7	12	251	6	4.2	6	8	9	182.0	1	162	1	0	5	387	1	41	5
52	Building Materials, Hardware and Mobile Home Dealers	26.8	5	174	9	2.9	9	19	7	- 6.5	9	- 12	9	0	5	194	5	58	9
54	Food Stores	22.3	8	353	4	5.8	4	37	5	39.5	2	100	2	1	4	120	11	40	4
55	Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations	13.9	9	205	7	3.4	7	42	4	- 11.3	10	- 26	10	1	4	176	7	58	9
56	Apparel and Accessory Stores	23.5	7	81	12	1.3	12	14	8	5.2	7	4	7	0	5	96	12	70	11
58	Eating and Drinking Places	35.8	4	658	1	10.9	1	49	2	- 15.2	11	-118	12	5	1	197	4	36	2
60	Banking	24.1	6	122	10	2.0	10	5	10	8.0	6	9	6	2	3	170	9	60	10
70	Hotels, Rooming Homes, Camps and Other Lodging Places	7.7	10	511	2	8.5	2	46	3	11.8	4	54	3	1	4	157	10	38	3
73	Business Services	55.3	1	83	11	1.4	11	8	9	16.9	3	12	5	1	4	230	3	47	6
80	Health Services	40.4	3	400	3	6.6	3	34	6	11.1	5	40	4	4	2	171	8	34	1

1/ Source: Occupational Employment Statistics Program, a Federal-State Cooperative Program between the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Manpower Research Division.

2/ Data derived from reports submitted by private firms subject to the Maine Employment Security Law for the week including the 12th.

3/ Information derived from "Job Bank Book-Maine Open Orders, by Job Bank Index and Order Location," for the week of March 27, 1981, pp. 1, 3, 15.

FOOTNOTES

- 1/ State of Maine 1980 New Industries, January 1981, Maine State Development Office, in conjunction with Central Maine Power Company.
- 2/ Information gathered in a telephone interview with George Traquair, executive director of the Boothbay Harbor Chamber of Commerce, March 3, 1981.
- 3/ Ibid.
- 4/ Information gathered in a telephone interview with Dennis Rice, manager of the Boothbay Region Fish and Cold Storage Company, March 3, 1981.
- 5/ Information gathered in a telephone interview with Alfred Osmer, president of the First National Bank of Damariscotta, March 4, 1981.
- 6/ Traquair.
- 7/ Information gathered in a telephone interview with Rita Grendel, spokesperson for Miles Memorial Hospital, March 3, 1981.

APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF LABOR MARKET INFORMATION APPLICABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM PLANNING

Strategic employment program planning is a process of examining a local labor market to determine the problems that are most persistent, the population groups affected, and the available jobs for which those persons can be made employable. This appendix identifies selected data that may be analyzed by employment program planners to assess economic conditions in a local labor market. It is not a comprehensive treatment of all available labor market information for analytical purposes. The attempt is to identify only current data of particular importance to strategic employment program planning. Planners are encouraged to contact source agencies for a detailed explanation of each data item identified.

Bureau of Employment Security Reports/Data Items:

Publications

- LMI Newsletters
- Annual Planning Information
- Directory of LMI
- Affirmative Action Information
- Technical Services Monographs
- LMI on Special Worker Groups
- Occupational/Industrial Projections to 1982
- Occupational Staffing Patterns
- Occupational Wages in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries
- Occupational Licensing Requirements
- Labor Market Reviews

Data Items

- Current Employment Statistics (CES)
- Labor Turnover Statistics (LTS)
- Employment, Wages, and Contributions (ES-202)
- Employment Security Automated Reporting System (ESARS)
- Characteristics of the Active File (ESARS, T-93)
- Applicants and Nonfarm Job Openings by Classification (ESARS, T-96)
- LMI Analytical Table Series
- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
- Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed (ES-203)
- Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Data (LBL)
- Survey of Income and Education (SIE)

Other Agency Reports Information:

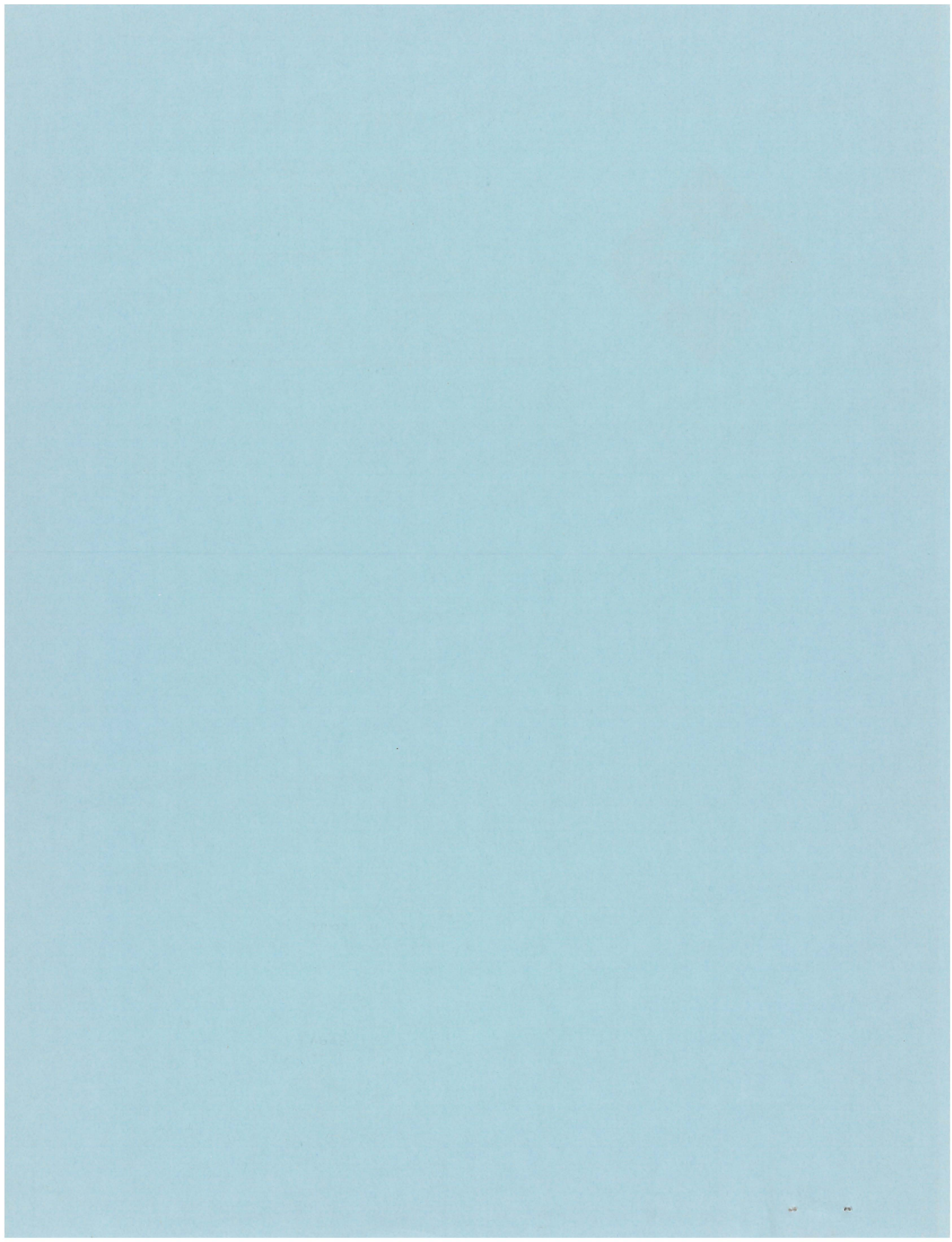
- Census Series (Demographics, Economic)
- Summary Manpower Indicators
- Current Population Reports
- U.S. Industrial Outlook
- BLS Area Wage Surveys
- Current Population Survey
- Employment and Earnings
- Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Employment and Training Report of the President
- Economic Report of the President
- Occupational Information System
- Career Information Delivery System

References for Interpreting LMI:

- Standard Industrial Classification Manual (SIC)
- Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT)
- ETA Glossary of Terms
- Cross-Code Index
- BLS Handbook of Methods

Reference Agencies:

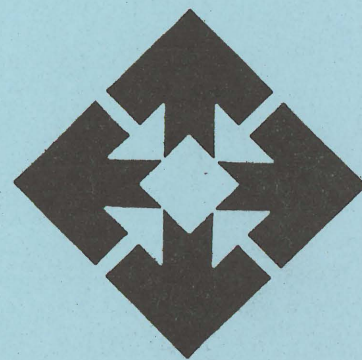
- Bureau of Employment Security
- Maine Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (MOICC)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (Regional Office)
- Government Printing Office Bookstores
- U.S. Department of Commerce (District Office)



The perceptual movement of the figure illustrates the two facets of research. Viewed one way, the four small arrows pointing to the central square represent the varied inputs to a research project.

Viewed another way, the four large arrows pointing outward represent the widespread dissemination of the results of research.

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